

WE CLAIM:

1. A personal care absorbent article comprising:  
a porous nonwoven web material treated with a fluid treatment agent  
suitable for altering red blood cells on contact with a red blood cell-containing fluid.
2. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1,  
wherein said fluid treatment agent is one of a red blood cell agglomerating agent and  
a red blood cell lysing agent.
3. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1,  
wherein said agent is a tri-block copolymer comprising polypropylene oxide and  
polyethylene oxide.
4. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1,  
wherein said agent is a polycationic material.
5. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 4,  
wherein said polycationic material is a polycationic surfactant linear polymer.
6. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 4,  
wherein said polycationic material is polylysine.

7. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said fluid treatment agent is an antibody.

8. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said fluid treatment agent is a saponin.

9. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said pores of said nonwoven web material have an average pore size in a range of about 10 microns to about 200 microns.

10. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said porous nonwoven web material comprises a porosity gradient with pore size increasing from one side of said porous nonwoven web material to an opposite side of said porous nonwoven web material.

11. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said porous nonwoven web material is a nonwoven material selected from the group consisting of spunbond, meltblown, airlaid, and bonded carded.

12. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 3, wherein said fluid treatment agent comprises a solution comprising greater than about 1% by weight of said tri-block copolymer.

13. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising at least one superabsorbent dispersed throughout said nonwoven web material.

14. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 2, wherein said lysing agent is an alkoxylated alcohol.

15. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 2, wherein said lysing agent is an octylpolyglycoside.

16. An absorbent material comprising:  
a backing material which is substantially fluid impervious;  
a cover material comprising a fluid permeable polymeric film; and  
an absorbent core disposed between said cover material and said backing material, said absorbent core comprising a porous nonwoven web material treated with a fluid treatment agent whereby red blood cells contacting said agent are one of agglomerated and lysed.

17. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said fluid treatment agent is a tri-block copolymer comprising polypropylene oxide and polyethylene oxide.

18. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said fluid treatment agent is a polycationic material.

19. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said fluid treatment agent is an antibody.

20. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 16, wherein at least one superabsorbent is disposed within said absorbent core.

21. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said porous nonwoven web material comprises a gradient of pore sizes with pore sizes decreasing in a direction of said backing material.

22. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said porous nonwoven web material is a nonwoven material selected from the group consisting of spunbond, meltblown, airlaid, and bonded carded.

23. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 17, wherein said fluid treatment agent comprises a solution comprising at least 1% by weight of said tri-block copolymer.

24. An absorbent material for absorption of a red blood cell containing viscoelastic fluid comprising:

a porous synthetic substrate having a fluid treatment agent disposed for contact by said viscoelastic fluid, whereby said red blood cells are one of agglomerated and lysed upon contact with said fluid treatment agent.

25. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 24, wherein said synthetic substrate is a nonwoven material.

26. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 25, wherein said nonwoven material is selected from the group consisting of spunbond, meltblown, airlaid and bonded carded.

27. An absorbent material in accordance Claim 24, wherein said fluid treatment agent is a tri-block copolymer comprising polypropylene oxide and polyethylene oxide.

28. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 24, wherein said fluid treatment agent is a polycationic compound.

29. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 24, wherein said fluid treatment agent is an antibody.

30. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 24, wherein said viscoelastic fluid is menses.

31. An absorbent material in accordance with Claim 24, wherein said viscoelastic fluid is at least one of blood and wound exudate.

32. In a personal care absorbent article having a substantially fluid impervious backing material, a fluid permeable cover material, an absorbent core disposed between said cover material and said backing material, and a superabsorbent disposed within said absorbent core, the improvement comprising:

said absorbent core comprising cell means for altering red blood cells of a red blood cell-containing fluid upon contact with said absorbent core whereby said red blood cells are precluded from reducing a fluid uptake rate of said superabsorbent.

33. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 32, wherein said absorbent core comprises a porous nonwoven web material and said cell means comprises a red blood cell agglomerating agent disposed on said porous nonwoven web material.

34. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 32, wherein said absorbent core comprises a porous nonwoven web material and said cell means comprises a red blood cell lysing agent disposed on said porous nonwoven web material.

35. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 33, wherein said red blood cell agglomerating agent is an antibody.

36. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 33, wherein said red blood cell agglomerating agent is a surfactant selected from the group consisting of tri-block copolymers of polyethylene oxide and polypropylene oxide, and polycationic linear polymers.

37. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 34, wherein said red blood cell lysing agent is a saponin.

38. A personal care absorbent article in accordance with Claim 33, wherein the pores of said porous nonwoven web material have an average pore size in a range of about 10 microns to about 200 microns.

39. A catamenial device comprising:  
a backing material which is substantially fluid impervious;  
a cover material comprising a fluid permeable polymeric film; and  
an absorbent core disposed between said cover material and said backing material, said absorbent core comprising a porous nonwoven web material treated with a fluid treatment agent whereby red blood cells contacting said agent are one of agglomerated and lysed.

40. A material for absorption of a red blood-cell containing fluid comprising:

an absorbent material treated with a fluid treatment agent suitable for altering red blood cells on contact with said red blood cell-containing fluid.

41. A material in accordance with Claim 40, wherein said absorbent material is a nonwoven web material.



42. A material in accordance with Claim 40, wherein said absorbent material is a woven material.

43. A material in accordance with Claim 40, wherein said fluid treatment agent is one of a red blood cell agglomerating agent and a red blood cell lysing agent.

44. A material in accordance with Claim 40, wherein said agent is a tri-block copolymer comprising polypropylene oxide and polyethylene oxide.

45. A material in accordance with Claim 40, wherein said agent is a polycationic material.

46. A material in accordance with Claim 45, wherein said polycationic material is a polycationic surfactant linear polymer.

47. A material in accordance with Claim 45, wherein said polycationic material is polylysine.

48. A material in accordance with Claim 40, wherein said fluid treatment agent is an antibody.

49. A material in accordance with Claim 40, wherein said fluid treatment agent is a saponin.

50. A material in accordance with Claim 40 further comprising at least one superabsorbent disposed within said absorbent material.

51. A material in accordance with Claim 43, wherein said lysing agent is an alkoxylated alcohol.

52. A material in accordance with Claim 43, wherein said lysing agent is an octylpolyglycoside.

53. A wound dressing comprising:  
an absorbent material treated with a fluid treatment agent suitable for altering red blood cells on contact with said red blood cell-containing fluid.

54. A wound dressing in accordance with Claim 53, wherein said fluid treating agent is one of a red blood cell agglomerating agent and a red blood cell lysing agent.